

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY

Tree Removal and Transplanting, Water Meter, and Fire Hydrant Work Scheduled for Beall Avenue Sidewalk Project

To improve pedestrian safety throughout the City and to continue implementing the Mayor and Council's Pedestrian Safety initiative, the City of Rockville will be constructing a 5-foot concrete sidewalk along the north side of Beall Avenue. The sidewalk will be placed in the public right-of-way two feet from the existing curb between Mannakee Street and Owens Street. In preparation for sidewalk construction, the Department of Public Works (DPW) has scheduled the following work **starting the week of May 19, 2008**:

- Removal of three street trees within the public right-of-way
- Transplanting of two street trees within the public right-of-way
- Relocation of four residential water meters
- Relocation and replacement of two fire hydrants

Parking restrictions and temporary lane closures may be in place during this work.

Tree Removal and Transplanting

Three street trees are being removed to provide the space needed to construct the sidewalk between Owens Street and Mannakee Street. DPW will utilize a City contractor, Pogo Tree Experts, to complete this work during the week of May 19, 2008. The tree removal locations by street address are:

- 715 Beall Avenue
- 729 Beall Avenue
- 755 Beall Avenue

The trees have been marked with orange paint. Root pruning will be done simultaneously to ensure that impacts to additional trees will be minimized during the construction of the sidewalk. The City of Rockville's Recreation and Parks Department will relocate two street trees in front of 735 Beall Avenue within the public right-of-way. Branches from any trees that hang over the proposed sidewalk will be trimmed during construction.

Fire Hydrant and Water Meter Relocation

Four water meters and two fire hydrants will be relocated within the public right-of-way to provide the clearance needed for the proposed sidewalk. The DPW maintenance crews have scheduled this relocation work to begin the week of May 19, 2008 (weather permitting). The two fire hydrants will be replaced to meet updated color standards (yellow hydrant with orange top). The water meter and fire hydrant relocations by street address are:

- 715 Beall Avenue (water meter)
- 721 and 723 Beall Avenue (fire hydrant)
- 739 Beall Avenue (water meter)
- 741 Beall Avenue (water meter)
- 743 Beall Avenue (water meter)
- 747 Beall Avenue (fire hydrant)

Project History

This project was initiated in response to requests from residents to construct sidewalks where they are missing. This project supports the City's goal to enhance pedestrian accessibility and to create a safer route for students walking to Beall Elementary School. A "Walk the Block" meeting was held on Thursday, June 28, 2007 to discuss an alignment for the Beall Avenue sidewalk, from Owens Street to Mannakee Street. Based on feedback received from residents during the June 28, 2007 meeting, City staff created a sidewalk design. A public comment period on the design was opened until Friday, November 30, 2007. Following the comment period, staff created a detailed sidewalk design to be used for the tree removal/relocation, the water meter and fire hydrant relocation/replacement, and for the construction phase of the project.

Next Steps

Following the preparation work, it is anticipated that sidewalk construction will begin in the summer of 2008 and take approximately four weeks, weather permitting. Residents will receive an advisory approximately two weeks prior to the start of the construction to provide additional information. DPW is working with the resident at 755 Beall Avenue to construct a missing sidewalk link on Owens Street. The implementation of the Owens Street sidewalk link will require a retaining wall and two additional tree removals.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the following City staff:

James Woods, Rockville Civil Engineer, 240-314-8521, jwoods@rockvillemd.gov

Rocio Estrada, Rockville Neighborhood Resources Coordinator, 240-314-8345, restrada@rockvillemd.gov

